

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Lewis Gomer and Mary Biel exchanged their wedding vows on August 11, 1957, at Ortonville, Minnesota, promising to share their lives and love together for the rest of their days; and,

*Whereas*, The newlywed couple of 50 years ago has been replaced by two devoted partners who have shared life's beauty and sorrow, and have grown to love one another more because of their common journey; and,

*Whereas*, Lew and Mary gave life and love to four children: Gregory, Gary, Sandra and Julie, who in turn have blessed their lives with ten grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; and,

*Whereas*, Lew served as superintendent of schools for the communities of White, Garretson, Faulkton and Polo for 37 years, is a member of the Beadle Club and has held leadership roles in the Lions Club and Lutheran Brotherhood in the Faulkton community; and,

*Whereas*, Mary, too, has been an educator teaching at various grade levels, and her most prominent achievement has been the development of the VoWac Publishing Company, in which she authored a phonetic-based language arts program used in several elementary schools, and Mary was the first woman to be inducted into the Beadle Club; and,

*Whereas*, Lew and Mary will observe their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with all the good wishes, fanfare and celebration such a milestone warrants, as their friends and relatives gather to honor them on August 12, 2007, to celebrate their lives and the camaraderie of the day, and it is fitting and proper for the Governor to make note of this special occasion in the lives of these two people who have lived exemplary lives for all to emulate:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim August 12, 2007, as

### *LEW AND MARY GOMER DAY*

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Ninth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State